

public for these lines and their cooperative agreements to be regulated than for the government to attempt to end these business practices. In the following Congress, Mr. Alexander introduced the Shipping Act of 1916, which became law on September 7, 1916, when it was signed by President Woodrow Wilson.

Congress achieved two key goals through this act: first, it created a merchant fleet capable of meeting the defense and trade requirements of the United States; and second, it regulated the industry to ensure competitiveness and protect the interests of shippers and consumers. Both of these objectives were to be achieved through the work of the five-member United States Shipping Board created via the bill.

This legislation was passed as armies in Europe battled each other from trenches and across no-man's-land. It became the law at a time before the United States was a combatant in the First World War, and the intent of the act was not to prepare for conflict. Nevertheless, this measure had the fortunate effect of taking the first steps toward remedying the serious issue of the lack of sufficient transport ships available to our military.

Today, international trade is an integral and critical part of the American economy. More than one-third of our Nation's Gross Domestic Product is tied to global commerce, and this figure is only predicted to become more significant in the coming years. Ocean transportation of goods and commodities is the backbone of our trading system, and the Federal Maritime Commission ensures that export and import shippers enjoy access to international maritime carriage services that are fair, reliable, and efficient. Each of us, as consumers, benefits from the competitive marketplace the Commission works to maintain.

Mr. Speaker, much like our predecessors who served in this very body 100 years ago, I want to guarantee the men and women of our armed services possess the resources they require to achieve their mission. As the Chairman of the Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation, it is frustrating that, while history has repeatedly demonstrated the need for the United States to maintain a vibrant merchant fleet and to have the vessels required for the transportation of troops and materials, we do not always heed the lessons of the past. While we should follow the example of what Congress did in 1916 and find ways to reinvigorate the U.S. Merchant Fleet in the international trades, it is reassuring to know that the Federal Maritime Commission monitors the global shipping market for predatory and anticompetitive practices. The work of the Commission is little known, but critical.

IN COMMEMORATING PRESIDENT
JAMES MADISON'S CONN'S
FERRY CROSSING

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 6, 2016

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the anniversary of President James Madison's river crossing at Conn's Ferry during the War of 1812. I would like to also thank

the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, the Fairfax History Commission and the Fairfax County Park Authority Board on commemorating this historically significant event.

This important milestone in American history was marked by the turmoil of British troops burning down many public buildings in Washington D.C. including the White House and the Library of Congress. After American forces suffered a military loss at Bladensburg, Maryland on August 24, 1814, a number of British soldiers occupied and set fire to our nation's capital. Fortunately, President James Madison, his wife Dolley and Secretary of State James Monroe escaped through the Virginia countryside and found refuge in the small town of Brookeville, Maryland. Although the British occupation of Washington D.C. only lasted 26 hours, the destruction inflicted left a strong impression upon Americans of that time and remains a moment of great historical importance.

I believe that we must seek to preserve American history and to remember the struggles of our once young fledgling nation. By preserving the area where our President escaped from harm, we have built a strong reminder for future generations demonstrating the cost of freedom and the sacrifices that were made to strengthen America's foundation.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commemorating the anniversary of President James Madison's river crossing at Conn's Ferry, and thanking the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, the Fairfax History Commission and the Fairfax County Park Authority Board on their work to memorialize this day.

IN HONOR OF THE 128TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SANCTUARY MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 6, 2016

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask for the House's attention today to recognize the 128th Anniversary of The Sanctuary Missionary Baptist Church in Montgomery, Alabama, "Historically Canaan Hill Missionary Baptist Church."

The church was founded in 1888 under the direction of Rev. R.D. Bibb. In 1988, Rev. Ossie T. Brown, Jr. became the church's leader and still is today. This year's church anniversary theme is: "To Seek and to Save: 128 Years of Living the Great Commission."

The church will celebrate its anniversary at a program on Sunday, November 20, 2016.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing the 128th Anniversary of The Sanctuary Missionary Baptist Church.

COMMEMORATING OLYMPIC
MEDALIST RYAN HELD

HON. DARIN LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 6, 2016

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Ryan Held on his gold medal finish

in the 4x100 meter Freestyle Relay at the 2016 Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

As a student of Sacred Heart Griffin High School in Springfield, IL, Ryan spent his time after school in the pool where he quickly impressed his teammates and competitors alike. As a sophomore, Ryan placed second in the 50-yard Freestyle and first in the 100-yard Freestyle at the Illinois High School Association Swimming Championships in 2012. The following year, he won both of these events at the State level, and earned the title of Illinois State Swimmer of the Year in 2014. Ryan currently attends North Carolina State University where he continues his collegiate swimming career.

From a young age, Ryan has proudly represented Springfield, devoting himself to both swimming and the community. Becoming an Eagle Scout at the age of 15, Ryan committed himself to being a tone of positive change in our community. For his Eagle Scout project, Ryan built a memorial in honor of a student who had passed away. Ryan embodies what it truly means to be an Eagle Scout, displaying exceptional leadership qualities, and putting others before himself.

After improving tremendously each year in the pool, Ryan became the NCAA Champion in the 4x100-yard Freestyle Relay in 2016; however, he had a larger goal in mind—the Olympics. This year, Ryan became a member of the 4x100 meter Freestyle Relay Team that won the Gold medal at the 2016 Rio Olympic Games, swimming the third leg of the event along with teammates Caleb Dressel, Nathan Adrian, and Michael Phelps. His lifelong dedication to swimming has paid off as he is now considered one of the best swimmers in the world.

Ryan serves as a reminder to the people of our community that when we believe in ourselves and dedicate our time and effort to the goals that we set, we can achieve even the most daring outcomes. Ryan exemplifies what it means to be an Olympian and an American. Central Illinois, the State of Illinois, and our Country could not be any prouder. Again, congratulations, Ryan, on your successful career.

VOTING IS A RIGHT FOR
AMERICANS, NOT A PRIVILEGE

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 6, 2016

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on Restoration Tuesday to acknowledge the recent Supreme Court decision on August 31, 2016 denying North Carolina's request to reinstate controversial voting laws which were implemented following the 2013 Shelby v. Holder case.

The rejected North Carolina voting laws included strict voter ID laws and cutbacks to early voting from 17 days to 10 days as well as elimination of the preregistration option for 16-year-olds. The Supreme Court's order upheld the North Carolina Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals decision which characterized the laws as targeting "African Americans with almost surgical precision."

It is a somber celebration in this democratic society when voter disenfranchisement is denied. This is a battle that America should not